

**Mayor and Council of Federalsburg
Regular Monthly Meeting
March 4, 2019 @ 6:00 pm**

The Mayor & Council of Federalsburg held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 4, 2019 at 6:00 pm in the Mayor & Council Meeting Room, 118 N Main Street, Federalsburg, Maryland. Those in attendance were Mayor Planner and Councilmembers Bollinger, Phillips, Windsor and Morean. Also in attendance were Lyndsey Ryan, Town Attorney, staff, citizens and media.

Welcome

Mayor Planner opened the meeting at 6:00 pm, he welcomed everyone and led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Announcement of Closed session -

Mayor Planner announced that the Mayor and Council held a closed session on March 26, 2019 at 5:30 pm to discuss acquisition of property.

**Prayer of Invocation - Pastor Joe Smith
Union United Methodist Church**

Pastor Joe Smith offered a prayer of invocation for the Town, staff and community.

Guests

Ceres Bainbridge, Tourism Council

Ms. Bainbridge gave the Mayor and Council brochures from the Caroline County Tourism Office and requested the continued financial support from the Mayor and Council this budget year. She stated that they currently have three Board Members from Federalsburg, Ms. Debbie Sewell, Mr. John Phillips, Jr. and Ms. Linda Blades. Ms. Bainbridge stated that they hope to expand this year and continue to include and encourage any creative events/activities in Caroline County.

Matthew Wade - Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Mr. Matthew Wade shared information with the Mayor and Council regarding the vehicle charging stations. His company uses private funds to install the stations at a location selected by the Town. The stations only require an electric 240 power source. Mr. Wade stated that his company would provide the equipment, labor and five years of maintenance on the stations. The cost is generally \$10,000 - \$20,000 per station, depending on the closeness of the power source. They also provide online tools to map out stations and advertise. This service is free to the public, and the Town is responsible for the electric costs.

Mr. Wade was asked what happens to the units at the end of the five year agreement, and he stated that the Town could take over the maintenance or his company would come and remove the stations. EVI posts a telephone number for service on the stations and response time is within 24 hours.

Mary Ann & Purnell Shortall - Waiver of Square Footage - 306 Buena Vista Avenue

Mr. & Mrs. Purnell Shortall were present to request an adjustment to the square footage requirement for placement of a new home on a property they own at 306 Buena Vista Avenue. They stated that the size home required would be approximately 2,000 sq feet and that was very large for a rental home. Councilmember Bollinger stated that the minimum is obtained by taking an average of two neighboring homes on each side of the property in question, and three homes directly across the street. Mr. Shortall stated that he plans to put new homes on six lots that he owns within the Town, and this property is the only one with an issue.

Councilmember Phillips questioned why Mr. & Mrs. Shortall did not go to Planning & Zoning with this request. Lyndsey Ryan stated that the Zoning Ordinance states that the Mayor and Council can enter into a DRRA with the property owner and waive this provision.

Councilmember Bollinger stated that he did some research on the matter and found that the Comprehensive Plan requires a stipulation that dedication of a portion of the lot be dedicated for public use. Mr. Shortall stated that was not his intention.

Lyndsey Ryan stated that the Mayor and Council may reduce the size requirement or not allow any changes at all, the property is not in the floodplain. Mr. Shortall stated that he planned to build one story homes. There was question regarding the size of the previous home that burned down on this property, and if there were any provisions that would allow Mr. Shortall to rebuild the same size home. Mr. Shortall stated that is was approximately 700 square feet. He hoped that the Town would use an average of about 1,800.

After lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Mayor and Council to have Lyndsey Ryan research to see if there are any provisions and check the codes for clarification. Councilmember Bollinger also stated that the rationale for this ordinance change several years ago, was in reference to two small homes built on Bloomingdale and that they did not conform with the existing neighborhood. Councilmember Bollinger made a motion seconded by Councilmember Phillips and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to table this discussion until more information can be obtained.

Historical Moment - Federalsburg Historical Society

Bart Johnson shared a historical moment regarding a school and Quaker Meeting House formerly located on East Central Avenue.

Old Business

Grants/Main Street Update - George Mayer

Mr. Mayer had to leave because of a family emergency - Shirley Greene reported for Mr. Mayer.

SRTS Gerardi Ave Update - The pre-bid for the Gerardi Avenue SRTS Project is scheduled for tomorrow at 10 am. The State has asked Mr. Mayer to bid out the project so that they can get a better estimate on what the project will actually cost, then they will update the grant.

Keep Maryland Beautiful Grant Update - Delmarva Power will not allow the flower baskets on the new downtown LED light poles. Therefore, Mr. Mayer has found an alternative to still beautify downtown area with

plantings. They are called side planting combo kits, they are available in a set of 3 columnar baskets with three different heights (36", 42" and 48"). He would like to order four sets and place them in various locations in the downtown area (triangle island at First Church of God, the two islands on North Main Street and island near Pizza Empire). Mr. Mayer has funds available in the Keep Maryland Beautiful grant to cover the cost of the columns and the cost of the flowers is covered by donations from the businesses. Mr. Mayer has requested approval from the Mayor and Council so that he may contact the grower on this time sensitive matter.

After some discussion, Councilmember Phillips made a motion seconded by Councilmember Morean and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to purchase three sets of border column baskets to start with to see if they will survive. The locations will be: two at First Church of God triangle, two in each of the islands on North Main Street and two near Pizza Empire and one at the far island.

Floating Dock ADA Update -

The Floating ADA Dock is complete and the safety treads have been installed.

Log Cabin Repairs Grant Application -

Two grant requests have been submitted for repairs to the Log Cabin in Chambers Park to Maryland Historical Trust and the Maryland Heritage Area Authority.

Matthew Cimino, Great Shoals Cellars

Councilmember Bollinger made a motion seconded by Councilmember Windsor and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to approve the request from Great Shoals Cellars, LLC for a Small Business Loan in the amount of \$50,000. Lyndsey Ryan was advised to proceed with preparation of the loan documents.

New Business

Introduction of Ordinance No. 2019-1 - Regulating Satellite Antennas

Ordinance No. 2019-1 was introduced by the Mayor and Council of Federalsburg to amend the town code by adding section 245-155 to regulate the construction and placement of satellite antennas and towers, poles, antennas and/or other structures intended for use in connection with telecommunications facilities or small cell telecommunications facilities.

Councilmember Bollinger made a motion seconded by Councilmember Morean and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to introduce and advertise Ordinance No 2019-1 for Public Hearing at the April Mayor and Council meeting.

Introduction of Ordinance No. 2019-2 - Amendment to Freestanding Sign Regulations

Ordinance No. 2019-2 was introduced by the Mayor and Council of Federalsburg to amend Section 245-115 of the Federalsburg Town Code to authorize the Planning Commission to waive the freestanding sign regulations

for commercial properties adjacent to or visible from Maryland Route 313 when necessary to ensure visibility to the property.

Councilmember Bollinger made a motion seconded by Councilmember Phillips and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to amend the ordinance to read "adjacent to Maryland Rt 313 and reduce when necessary" and to strike "visible from". The Ordinance was introduced and approved for advertisement for Public Hearing at the April Mayor and Council meeting.

Request to Revise Park Hours of Operation

The Mayor and Council received a memo from Chief Mike McDermott with recommendations to revise the park hours to include uniformity. He suggested sunrise to sundown to include one hour before or after. He stated that special event or rental times would allow for different timing. He requested that this be approved and had spoken with Public Works about new signage and installation.

After much discussion, it was agreed that sunrise or sundown would not work for areas of recreation and should therefore be reconsidered. Shirley Greene will take the Mayor and Council's comments back to the Chief for further discussion.

Police Department - Budget Transfer/Payment Requests

Chief McDermott submitted a request in his weekly report to the Mayor and Council to transfer funds within his current budget in order to payoff two vehicle loans. Due to the reduced staff at this time, he would like to use funds from Salaries, Health Insurance and Holiday Pay to pay off these loans.

Councilmember Phillips made a motion seconded by Councilmember Bollinger and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero approving Chief McDermott's request to transfer funds to payoff two vehicle loans.

Committee Reports

Federalsburg Historical Society

Bart Johnson reported that the Historical Society is closed until April, but is open by appointment only.

Federalsburg Lions Club

Mrs. Kim Abner reported that it is fundraising season for the Lions Club.

March 30th - Night at the Races at the VFW at 6 pm - Please contact Wayne Cole for tickets or more information.

April 13th - CRHS Dog Jog - The route is to be determined.

April 4th - Comcast Cares Day at Chambers Park - They will be using the website to sign up again once it is available. The Lions Club plans to use monies raised to help pay for dog park. They have met with Chad Shelly to compile a priority list and have talked with South Carolina Little League and they are pleased with the cleanup, and willing to help out.

Shirley Greene was asked to contact the Town of Denton about use of the leaf vacuum again this year.

Planning & Zoning Commission

Councilmember Bollinger reported that there was nothing new at this time.

Federalsburg Volunteer Fire Company

Councilmember Morean reported that there was nothing new at this time.

Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Phillips made a motion seconded by Councilmember Morean and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero approving the minutes as presented.

Public Comment (2 Minutes)

Ms. Wanda Hill, resident of Hill Street, stated that she has talked with Steve Dyott regarding the condition of Hill Street. She reported that the holes and water are overwhelming, Mr. Dyott has scraped the road but it just isn't enough. She was very appreciative of all the work that has been done but the road is still in rough shape. The Mayor and Council stated that they would discuss these concerns with Steve Dyott and see what can be done.

Mayor & Council Action Items

Councilmember Windsor

Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Bollinger

Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Morean

Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Phillips

Nothing at this time.

Mayor Planner

Nothing at this time.

Adjournment

There being no further business Councilmember Bollinger made a motion seconded by Councilmember Windsor and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kristy L. Marshall
Clerk-Treasurer